

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, comprising:
a lead body having an insulator and at least one conductor, wherein the insulator includes at least one welding region formed by the removal of at least a portion of the insulator, the welding region formed to expose at least a portion of the at least one conductor;
at least one conductive pad within the welding region, the conductive pad electrically connected to the at least one conductor; and
a band welded to the conductive pad at the welding region to electrically connect the band to the at least one conductor.
2. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein the welding region comprises a groove cut in the insulator.
3. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, as in Claim 2, wherein the groove runs parallel to the at least one conductor.
4. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein the conductive pad is electrically connected to the at least one conductor using a method selected from the group consisting of conductive adhesives and crimping.

5. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein the conductive pad comprises a metal selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, MP35N, platinum, gold, silver, copper and vanadium.

6. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein the band is selected from the group consisting of a band electrode, a band connector, and a sensor.

7. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, as in Claim 1, wherein the band further comprises a plurality of projections on an inner wall of a lumen, wherein the projections space the inner wall from an outer surface of the lead body.

8. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 7, wherein at least three projections are positioned around the inner wall to center the lead body within the lumen.

9. (Currently Amended) A medical lead, comprising:
- a lead body having an insulator and at least one conductor, wherein the insulator includes at least one welding region formed by the removal of at least a portion of the insulator, the welding region formed to expose at least a portion of the at least one conductor;
- at least one elongated conductive element having a distal end and a proximal end, the proximal end electrically connected to the at least one conductor within the welding region; and
- a band welded to the distal end of the elongated conductive element to electrically connect the band to the at least one conductor, the band welded to the distal end of the elongated conductive link outside the welding region.
10. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the welding region comprises a groove cut in the insulator.
11. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, as in Claim 10, wherein the groove runs parallel to the at least one conductor.
12. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the elongated conductive element is selected from the group consisting of wire, ribbon wire, and cable.

13. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the elongated conductive element is electrically connected to the at least one conductor using a method selected from the group consisting of crimping and conductive adhesives.

14. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the elongated conductive element comprises a material selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, MP35N, platinum, gold, silver, copper and vanadium.

15. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the band is selected from the group consisting of a band electrode, a band connector, and a sensor.

16. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, as in Claim 9, wherein the band further comprises a plurality of projections on an inner wall of a lumen, wherein the projections space the inner wall from an outer surface of the lead body.

17. (Original) A medical lead, as in Claim 16, wherein at least three projections are positioned around the inner wall to center the lead body within the lumen.

18. - 29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, comprising:

a lead body having an insulator and at least one conductor, wherein the insulator includes at least one welding region defined by a groove formed in the insulator to expose at least a portion of the at least one conductor;

at least one conductive pad within the welding region, the conductive pad electrically connected to the at least one conductor; and

a band welded to the conductive pad at the welding region to electrically connect the band to the at least one conductor.

31. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, as in Claim 31, wherein the groove runs parallel to the at least one conductor.

32. (Previously Presented) A medical lead, as in Claim 31, wherein the conductive pad is electrically connected to the at least one conductor using a method selected from the group consisting of conductive adhesives and crimping.